

Names of sundry Nations of Western Indians^①
with whom the English became connected after the Surrender of Canada in 1760.

Sauteux,	Missisageghrono's
Codewamies,	N ^o Dowadeny
Miamis,	Sheghquaneghrono's
Satce	Oyadogeghrono
Folsavoine	Onatsyageghrono Monominies
Guants	Awegachy wageghrono
Renards	Sheghseghrono
Sioua	Nadoweghseghrono
Gens de Terre	Ceastiageghrono
Nurons	Wandats Ilwnonadadikaga
	Chippaweghrono
	Ottawawas
	Kichapou,
	Laguina's
	Otsiqui —
	Custineau —

Records of Indian affairs

Continued from Folio 7.

1761. Tuesday February 17th

On Sir William Johnson's arrival at Conajoharee. The Sachems and Chiefs of that Castle came to his quarters and after their usual ceremony of welcome were performed, their Speaker Warraghieagee, (alias Brant) spoke as follows.

Brother Warraghieagee

We are come to you as his Majesties Agents, and our friends, to lay our complaints and grievance before you. We understand from several of our Neighbours the White people that George Hlock (who lives at Conajoharee) has offered Lands of ours to sale, altho we are entirely ignorant of any rights which he has, so to do, we likewise hear that he has forbid some people residing thereon to pay us any more rent, ordering them to bring, or pay the same to him. if this is allowed of, we must become miserable, and foresee our ruin approaching, we therefore beg you will enquire into it and procure us Justice.

To which Sir William. made them the following Answer

Brethren of Conajoharee

I am glad to see you all assembled here at my quarters, although it gives me concern to find you have any cause of uneasiness. with regard to your complaint concerning Hlock, I shall, as His Majesties Agents endeavour to procure you all the justice which the case deserves, and shall tomorrow morning send for Hlock in order to hear what he says thereon, least it might have been misrepresented to you. If I find that you are injured, I promise you

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You that I shall take the proper steps to have you redressed. As I have it in charge from the Great King your Father, to see that neither you, nor any of his Indian allies be imposed upon, with regard to your Lands, he has likewise given instructions to that effect many years ago to the Governour of this Province.

The Indians returned Sir William hearty thanks for what he had said, and then took leave for that night.

Wednesday 10th

Sir William wrote a Letter to George Klock which he dispatched by two Indians, desiring he would attend him, in order to inform him concerning the affair of which the Indians had complained. On the messengers return they reported that Klock had gone out of the way, and delivered back Sir Williams his Letter.

All the Sachems &c. assembled at Sir Williams quarters where after condoling their losses, he acquainted them of his late Majesty's approbation of their conduct last campaign in the reduction of Canada, of his death since, and of his present Majesty's succession to the Throne, assuring them that his present Majesty's intentions were very favourable towards all friendly Indians, who might depend on his favour & protection so long as they remained his Friends, and in alliance with the British Crown.

Gave a Belt of wampum

He then proceeded

Brethren,

I have considered your late request for a schoolmaster to instruct your young people, and agree to allow you one, as it is what I much approve of, and hope you will make a proper use of him, which will be an encouragement to me to afford you farther assistance.

You should therefore find out a proper school house, and I shall procure

procure your Paper, Pens, Ink &c. having already made choice of a
 Master to whom I have promised 20 £ a year to instruct you
 I have employed Mr Golden the Surveyor General / agreeable to your late
 request / to make out a proper map of this part of the Country, whereby
 I may be the better enabled to ascertain what Lands remain yet in
 your power to dispose of —

I have likewise notified the late King's death, and the succession of
 his present Majesty King George the third, to the five Nations by
 Messengers whom I have sent for that purpose, and whom I have
 instructed to insert on the Senecas making satisfaction for their
 behaviour to some of Major Rogers's men lately passing through
 their Country.

Sir William then acquainted them with what had passed between
 Mr Croghan his Deputy, and the several Nations of Indians about
 the Detroit; and also with the proceedings of Lieut Claus his Deputy
 in Canada; & concluded by letting them know that Gen. Amherst
 had wrote to inform him that the Medals which he intended for those
 Indians who had accompanied the Army to Montreal last Campaign
 were almost finished, and should shortly be sent to him, who was
 to distribute them —

After consulting amongst one another near two hours, their
 speaker Arighiadeckas addressed Sir William as follows —

Brother

We most sincerely thank you for the condolences you were pleased to
 perform for our late losses, and we on our parts now do the same
 well knowing your loss of people here, and over the great Lakes, must
 also have been considerable. gave 3 things of value

Brother

The Death of the Great King George must be a very severe loss to his
 people especially at this time, of which we are all thoroughly
 sensible, but as we have the pleasure to hear from you that his Grandson
 now

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Now King is a good man, we hope the loss will be in a great measure made up in him, and we heartily wish he may live long, and be successful over his Enemies. A black & white Belt.

Brother

We are greatly obliged to you for the care which you shew of us and our children, by procuring us a man to instruct our young people and agreeable to your desire that we should find out a proper place for a school, we have considered thereof, and cannot think of a better or more convenient place than one of the empty blockhouses within the Port where drunken people cannot disturb them, we should therefore be glad you would speak to the Commanding Officer concerning the same.

Brother

I string of Wampum

We return you thanks for communicating to us the news which you have received from your several Deputies, and tis with pleasure, we now hear that you have at length been enabled to bring all Your Enemies to reason, and one way of thinking, and we earnestly wish proper measures may be taken to continue them therein.

Sir William then addressed them

Brethren

Altho I approve of the blockhouse which you mention for a schoolhouse yet you cannot be able to make use thereof until I have acquainted General Amherst thereof, and can procure his approbation which I make no doubt of obtaining; to encourage some necessary work, I sent to George Klock agreeable to your desire, but he not being at home, I shall take another opportunity of hearing from him concerning your complaints, and shall acquaint you therewith.

The Indians all expressed a suspicion of Klocks fidelity, and keeping out of the way on purpose, saying, they knew him to be a bad man. They then earnestly begged Sir William would look into the affair, and not suffer them to be ruined. After which the Conference ended.

P.M.

P.M. an old Mulatto Woman named Eve Pickers waited on Sir William with a Deed of gift (for a parcel of low, and woodlands containing about 1100 acres) which she had, which was dated last September, and which Sir William discovered had been executed only two days ago, by three Indians whom she called to her house, & whom she, and her Grandson (whose name I forgot) had made drunk, & then prevailed on them to sign the Deed, without having a License from the Governor, or Council, with which unjust proceedings Sir William made some of the chiefs of that Castle acquainted, to whom the Land belonged, which threw them into a violent passion, and made them exclaim against the deceitfulness, and unbrotherlike behaviour of the white people towards them, who they said, daily took all advantages of their ignorance, and seemed to aim at their entire extirpation; which they added, was a most cruel, and unchristianlike return for their adherence to the English, and charitable conduct towards their Neighbours, when they were unable to assist themselves.

Ed. Die A Tuscarora sachem named Gawehe, delivered Sir William a Letter from one Edw. Johnson living at their town, to acquaint him of his having began to instruct those Indians, & the Oneidas, in the Christian Religion, and as they were very desirous thereof, hoped he would send them some books, paper & mentioned in his letter, the Indian said a good deal on the subject, and seemed an entire proselite. whereupon Sir William gave them a Letter for such things as he wanted, told him, he should soon go to their Country, and if he found they made a good progress in Religion, and Learning, he would give them all the assistance in his power towards perfecting so good a work.

The Indian then went thro' the ceremony of condolance, with three strings of wampum, next returned many thanks for the order for the books &c. and assured Sir William that their Nation, and the Oneidas were

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were fully resolved to get as much into the Christian Religion as they possibly could, and hoped by the time of his arrival at their Castle, they should be able to shew him, that they had not neglected it, but made some proficiency therein. After which he took his leave.

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On Sir William's return to Fort Johnson he received the following Letter from Governor Hamilton of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia 10th February 1761

Sir,

Teedyuscung in a visit he lately made me shewed me a Letter from you of the first of March last, wherein after acquainting him that his Majesty had ordered you to examine thoroughly into the matters complained of by him in the Conferences at Easton in July, and August 1757, you desired to know when and where it would be most convenient for him and the Indians concerned to meet you, and the sooner you knew the better, that you might give notice to the Proprietary Commissioners to attend.

We farther told me that this Letter was brought to him by his son just as he was setting out on his western journey, and that he had hitherto made no answer to it.

Then taking a string of Wampum he expressed great unwillingness to have this complaint heard by one, who he said was a stranger to him, and acquainted one that the Indians were all desirous it should be heard by me as Governor of this Province, and that there would be a good opportunity of doing it at the great Meeting of Western Indians which was intended to be at Philadelphia the next summer, where all the Indians concerned in those complaints had agreed to have them heard and adjusted.

I know not whence this change in Teedyuscung arises, but cannot help suspecting that it may be suggested to him by some people here.

here, with whom he is very intimate, and who might give him this advice that they might have the entire management of him and this whole affair during the Treaty, in opposition to and dislike of the Proprietors. This made me express great reluctance at his proposal, and returned him no other answer than that I would take his request into consideration.

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I have ever been of opinion, that you, who are His Majesty's Agent for Indian affairs, and are perfectly well acquainted with the Rights, Sentiments and Interests of the Six Nation Indians, should not only hear and determine this, but all other matters relative to Indians, and, were I to follow my Inclination as well as Judgment, I would have rejected the proposal; but if nevertheless these officious people would not interfere, and you shall judge, from the present circumstances of affairs and the minds of the Six Nation Indians who may be consulted as being concerned to support their own rights and proceedings, that my hearing it will contribute to the general good I will not decline it. But then should you advise me to undertake this — I beg leave to use the precaution of assuring you, that, if I find any undue influences or any partial interferences from the people of this City, I will desist and leave it to be heard by you.

I am further to acquaint you, that we are like to have great trouble, and I am afraid the renewal of the Indian war from a most wicked revival of the Connecticut claims. These restless spirits have, actually come at the close of the last summer and laid out Townships on the west side of Delaware river on Lands not purchased of the Indians, and left some of their people to remain the possession during the winter, intending to join them with vast numbers in the spring and to carry all before them by force. — as soon as I was informed that there were some Connecticut people settling over against Cushietunk, in the upper parts of Northampton County, opposite to the

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the Jersey Station points, I sent the Sheriff and some of the Magistrates of that County to enquire into their pretensions & proceedings, and to warn them off, - and on their return they made me a report in writing, of which I enclose you a copy, that you may see what wild works they are carrying on, and what imminent danger there is of our provoking the Indians to fresh hostilities. Indeed, what can they think of us when they see the blood of our Inhabitants scarce covered, but we are quarrelling for Land that belongs to neither of us, but to them.

I had scarce sent my dispatches to the Sheriff and Magistrates but Sedgusung came in great concern to inform me of this settlement and to insist, that the Government these people came from should be desired to recall them, and, if they did not, that I should remove them, and if neither Government would do it, he assured me that the Indians would do themselves Justice.

Accordingly I have wrote a Letter to Governor Fitch to use his utmost Influence to recall the people already settled, and to prevent others from coming, and have set before him the bad consequences that may arise as well from the Indians as from the opposition they will certainly meet with from this Government.

As I expect that nothing Governor Fitch can say or do on my Affairs will avail anything, I was thinking to write an account of this unhappy proceeding to General Amherst and desire his interposition with the Colony of Connecticut, as it may obstruct the Kings service to have such a flagrant piece of Injustice offered to the Indians who may thereupon be induced to withdraw their friendships from the English Interest, and again become our Enemies; but it may be better perhaps if you will be so good as to take that task upon you, and set it in its true Light before the General, and desire him to use his influences with Governor Fitch to have this dangerous attempt laid aside.

I am under very great concern, lest the Six Nations should lay any thing to the charge of this Province, and therefore request that you will be,

be pleased to represent this attempt to them, together with what I am doing to prevent it; and assure them that nothing shall be wanting on my part to vindicate their and the proprietary rights from this mischievous set of intruders; and if any thing occurs to you that you shall think proper for me to do I shall be infinitely obliged to you if you will be pleased to communicate it. — I am with very great respect

Sir, Your most obedient

humble servant

James Hamilton

Honble Sir W^m Johnson Bart

Copy of Sir William Johnson's Answer to the before mentioned Letter, Dated Fort Johnson 24th March 1761

Sir

The Letter which Seedyuscung shewed you, was wrote in obedience to his Majesty's order in Council to me, dated the 29th of August 1759, altho' not received until a few days before the date of my Letter to Seedyuscung. from the tenor of said order I cannot dispense meeting with and hearing the complaints of the Delawares &c. as well as the proprietaries defence by their Commissioners, whenever Seedyuscung & his tribe, or these Indians concerned, will appoint the time and place, which I am surpris'd they have not as yet done.

His unwillingness to have his complaint heard by me, because he is not personally acquainted, is really a very trifling reason, and carries with it, a strong suspicion of his having been tampered with, as well as an unbecoming opposition to, and contempt of his Majesty's order, and his Ministers Judgment, which he must not be indulged in, especially as it was his own request that the affair might be decided by his Majesty, who, by the advice of his Council was pleased to order that method, as the most likely of finding out, and

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And laying before him (for his Royal Decision) the full and true state of that case, so that I flatter myself, you will join in opinion with me, that there is no deviating (with any propriety) from said order.

I am very sorry to hear you are embarrassed by the Connecticut people, and so apprehensive of the renewal of an Indian war in your borders, was it in my power to be any ways instrumental in settling the difference between the two governments, I do assure you, Sir, none would take a greater pleasure in so good a work.

General Amherst's Influence and interpositions (which doubtless he will in such case readily afford) would in my opinion be the most effectual method that could at present be used for accommodating that affair, and preventing the ill consequences which you apprehend may derive from it, if not timely prevented. I should ^{have} readily complied with your desire of my writing, and laying the case before the General, but that I am certain it will come with much more propriety from you, as well as be set in a fuller, and clearer light to him.

Should this affair unhappily go so far as to cause any emotions amongst the Indians (which I hope will be prevented) I shall then use every method in my power towards a reconciliation, in the meantime should anything occur to me, which may be necessary for you to know, be assured I shall not omit communicating it to you, as I am

very respectfully Sir

Your most obed^t humble Servant

W^m Johnson

Sunday February 22^d

Two Onondagas, and three Cayugas arrived at Fort Johnson, the chief of the Cayugas named Shanagady, on their entering the Council Room, Sir William bid them welcome, told them that the five Nations were great strangers of late, and after ordering them some provisions informed them, he should be ready next day to hear what they had to say.

Monday

Monday 23^d They assembled when Shanarady addressed them as follows

Brother Warraghigagee

I am come hither to acquaint you that the five Nations are to have a Council at Onondaga within a few days, on several matters of some consequence to them, after which I am desired to acquaint you, they purpose to come doing, and report their proceedings to you.

You told me yesterday we were great strangers of late, it is very true, Brother we have been so, and some evil reports we have amongst us from our Brethren the English towards Pennsylvania, is the cause thereof. We are told from thence, that the English intend to destroy us, for what reason we know not, however, some foolish people amongst us, are credulous enough to think it true, as we are not allowed Powder &c. as formerly, for which reason we are obliged to have recourse to our Bow, and arrow. I should hardly have come down at this season

of the year, were it not to clear up to you the cause of my not joining you last Campaign, as I was informed you were very much displeased with those that did not. I therefore assure you that I was at the time of your marching, and for two months after, bedrid, with a pain in my breast, otherwise nothing should have prevented me from accompanying you, therefore I hope you will not attribute it to any thing else.

By that sickness, and the weakness which followed it, you may perceive I am reduced very low, and am become destitute of every thing, which I hope you will take into consideration, and allow me some Ammunition.

We have no news amongst us, except that the Governour of Pennsylvania has sent three belts of invitation to the five Nations, desiring very purposely that we should go to Philadelphia in the spring, to a meeting he intend to hold there, and after the Council at Onondaga is ended, you will hear their resolutions thereon.

Sir William then addressed them

Brethren of Onondaga, and Cayuga

I am glad to hear that the five Nations are about holding a Council at Onondaga

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March/ On matters of importance, I hope they may maturely deliberate thereon, and when ended I shall expect to hear the result thereof. After the many admonitions I have from time to time given your Confederacy, and assurances of the King's good intentions towards you, and all Indians who by their behaviour shall merit his friendship and protection, I am surprised at your folly in listening to such idle & wicked reports. Have you not sufficient reason to discredit them. Don't you all know, and have you not daily proofs of British humanity, who not only give quarter to their most inveterate enemies the French & their Indians on their making proper submission, but even afford them more reasonable terms than their behaviour could give them hopes of expecting from any Nation less generous & humane than the English? How then can you become so infatuated as to harbour the least suspicion of their having any bad designs against you? Drop therefore, all jealousy of that nature, and behave yourselves as Brethren should do least you give us cause to think that your fears proceed from a consciousness of your having deserved ill at our hands. Brother,

As I am sensible of your attachment to his Majesty's interests, I am therefore the easier satisfied with the reasons which you have given me for not joining the Army last Campaign, and shall order you some cloathing, with a little ammunition.

I shall write the result of your general meeting at Onondaga, and heartily wish it may turn out to our mutual advantage.

I then delivered each some cloathing, Ammunition with a little money to Shanarady, & the Onondagas, who attended the Army last Campaign, after which they took their leave.

March 10th At a Meeting held at Fort Johnson
with all the Sachems, & Chiefs of the Lower Mohock Castle
Present, Sir Wm^m Johnson Bart.

Warren Johnson Esq^r

Insign Barden of the 1st Reg^t

Little Abraham their speaker stood up, and acquainted Sir William that

That they were ready to proceed. Sir William thereupon answered them that he judged it proper after the many losses they had sustained to condole with him thereon, agreeable to the custom, and rules prescribed by their forefathers, at which done, they might then speak. They answered it was very proper, whereupon Sir William began with wiping away the tears from their eyes &c. clearing their speech and wiping away the blood of their friends from their sight.

He next covered the grave of Thomas, ^{gave three strings of wampum} or Ganugh Addike, Chief-Warrior of their battle, who died the last week.

^{gave a very large black belt of wampum} After which the Indians returned Sir William many thanks for his kind remembrance and observance of the ancient Customs of their wise Ancestors. Then Little Abraham stood up, and condoled the losses of the English, which he said they were sensible, must have been very considerable during the war. ^{gave three strings} After which he proceeded in manner following.

Brother Warraghiagey

It is now upwards of five Months, since the great spirit above, was pleased to give the whole Country of Canada into the hands of our Brethren the English, and thereby restored peace to this part of the world, which affords us all great pleasure, as we may now have rest, and enjoy the benefits of hunting on our grounds without molestation, and our Brethren the English may follow their several occupations in peace. We cannot avoid observing to you our expectations of your having ere now taken that hatchet out of our hands, which you gave us in the beginning of the war, as the French against whom we took it up are no more.

Delivered a black belt given by Sir William to them (at the time Fort Bull was destroyed) desiring them all to follow him thither, in order to oppose the Enemy.

Brother

It is with great concern we daily hear of the troubles our Brothers of Onajohara are now involved in, as we are given to understand that the very Lands on

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On which they live, and out of which they get their maintenance, are now ready to be snatched from them, by people whom they assisted, and nourished like children when unable to help themselves. This is a grievance which we all think cannot be born, wherefore we wish it may be soon redressed.

Brother

It is now several years since we of the lower Mohocks did by our chiefs (since lost in his Majesty's service) make known to the Governor of New York, and you of our having been imposed upon by some of those who call us Brothers, by their taking Patents for our Land without the knowledge or consent of those to whom they belonged, and without paying any consideration for the same, which is the case in that patent of Haniadenusseras also for Lands whereon we live, which we are told the people of Albany have a deed for, and claim a right to it thereby making those persons who reside thereon pay rent for the same, which we think very hard, and more than the King will allow.

We last year renewed our complaints to you, and most earnestly requested you to look into them and procure us Justice therein. You then assured us that you would write to England concerning it, but we have heard nothing from you since, relative thereto. We fear your Letters are sunk in the great Lake, or that there is no notice taken of them at home by the great King, on whom we rely for justice. Pray Brother let us know how that affair is, as all our people are very uneasy concerning it.

gave a belt

Sir William answered them as follows.

Brothers of the Mohocks

We have all reason to rejoice at the success of his Majesty's arms in the reduction of Canada, and its Dependencies, a country inhabited by such a troublesome, and ambitious Nation, who until conquered would not permit their Neighbours to enjoy any peace. As they are now in our power, they become subjects to the Crown of England, both

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both you, and we are thereby enabled to follow our several occupations unmolested, and may at our leisure improve, and extend our alliances among all the Nations throughout the continent, so as to become in time of one heart, and one mind together, a period which I hope is not far distant, and which ^{will} greatly contribute to our mutual happiness & security. I cannot with propriety take the hatchet out of your hands, as you have expected, until all matters are entirely over, or I receive orders from the Commanding Officer for that purpose; when either happens, you may depend on my doing what is right and customary.

Brothers, and Friends

With equal concern I hear the constant complaints of the Ponajohannes concerning their lands, and I am resolved to do every thing in my power to have justice for them therein.

You may remember that about six years ago I wrote home to the Lords of Trade concerning the complaints which you then made, and tho' some attention was then paid thereto, yet, the war in which his Majesty has ever since been engaged, has so occupied the thought, and time of his Ministers, and those whose Province it is to enquire into and redress such grievances that nothing has been done therein.

You likewise know that I transmitted home, your complaint made to me last summer on the same affair, to which I have as yet received no answer, tho' I daily expect one, and hope it may prove agreeable to you; whenever I receive it, you may depend on my acquainting you without loss of time, with his Majesty's pleasure thereon, in the mean time, I must recommend patience to you, as affairs of that nature cannot be so speedily determined as you may imagine.

The Mohocks returned Sir William thanks for what he had said, and promised them, and concluded with hoping that their cause would not be neglected nor themselves slighted when the War was over. after which they departed

March 4th In the evening arrived at Castle Cumberland, (a seat of Sir William Johnson's) twenty one of the chief men of Ponajohannes, & the first Woman of the Wolf tribe, named Lotter, all in flet, and after the usual ceremony at

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At Meeting, Old Brant, at Oraghadecha, their Speaker stood up and spoke as follows.

Brother Warraghiyagey.

We sent you three strings of wampum two days ago by one of our young men to acquaint you with the villainous, and unbrotherlike proceedings of George Hlock, as we have had no answer thereupon, and he still persevering in his wicked schemes, we in a full council of all our People yesterday, judged it best to come to, and acquaint you with his behaviour, and to beg your interpositions, which we wish may be speedy and successful, if not, we fear the consequences may prove bad, as all our young men are highly enraged at Hlocks, and some other people's conduct towards us, with which we shall now inform you. We need not repeat to you his behaviour concerning the Lands we live upon, & plant, having when you were lately at our Castle given you an account thereof— Since that time, he met with three, or four of our Young Men who were going to hunt, and invited them to his house where after making them ^{very} drunk, he proposed to them his desire of purchasing some of their lands on the north side of the river and pressed them to execute a Deed for the same; which they for some time refused to (altho' in liquor) as sensible it was improper for them to do; but he plying them with more liquor, (which you know it is almost impossible for them to resist) and they being some of the most addicted thereto of any of our people, he at length prevailed on them to assent thereto; after which at parting he gave to each of them a bottle of Rum as earnest for the bargain, and desired they would come to his house on the Saturday following to execute a Deed for the Land, which Deed he would immediately send to Albany to have drawn. We shall do all in our power to prevent their going to his house as desired, and we beg you will write to him about it, & forbid him from using such unfair methods for depriving us of our lands, you having frequently told us, the King would not permit any of his subjects to cheat us thereof.

Yours three strings—

Brother

Brother

Another part of our business here is likewise to assure you, that the Land which we gave you sometime ago, was the unanimous act of our whole Nation, which we are determined to abide by, and desire that you may not listen to any idle reports, or lying talk of the Country people, of which there is too often a great deal. We do now in behalf, and in the name of all our people, ratify and confirm (by this belt of wampum) to you, the Land for which we have given you sometime ago a Deed, and beg you will not regard what any idle body may say concerning it, or us.

Brother

Have a black, & white belt

The Block-House which we told you when up at our Castle, we thought was the properest place for a school, we now find will not answer, being made use of as a stable by the Commanding Officer of the Fort, so that we have been obliged to look out for another, and Nickas, here present offers the use of his house for that purpose, provided he be allowed something reasonable for it, which we hope you will take into consideration.

Sir William addressed them as follows.

Brethren of Onajoharee

I heartily welcome you all here, and am glad to see so many of your Chiefs at this my new settlement.

Your message by one of your people I received two days ago, and in consequence thereof, I immediately wrote to George Block, desiring him to desist from acting the villainous part, he has hitherto done, which I hope he will. If not, I shall take such measures as the Law directs.

I have also wrote to the President of this Province concerning the affair, and doubt not in the least but he will (by following his Majesty's instructions concerning the purchase of land) put a stop to, & prevent Block, or any other persons imposing on you. You may rest assured his Majesty, the great King George will not

Brother

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Not Countenance the unlawfull purchase of your lands, by any of his subjects, so that you, and your young men may rest satisfied on that head, until I may hear from home, which I expect will be within a little time, and with which you shall then be made acquainted.

Brethren

I thank you for the marks of regard shewn to me, and the assurances which you now make of being unanimous in what you have done. I never in the least doubted of its being otherwise than a voluntary act, ^{of all your people} after the solemn declarations you all made to me at the time when you executed the Deed, and you may be assured I shall not now regard the idle reports of busy, or bad people concerning the same. I am glad you have found a proper place for a school, and you may depend on its meeting with all due encouragement from me as nothing can afford me more satisfaction than to see those improve in Religion, and Learning who are put under my care and direction.

Then the Meeting was dissolved

March 8th A Meeting held at Fort Johnson with several sachems of the Senecas, Onondagas, and Mohocks,

Present

Sir William Johnson Bart.

Warren Johnson Esq.

John Johnson Esq.

Capl. Teles Fondas

Wm. Crutcher Interpreter

On the Indians coming into the Council Room, Sir William Johnson agreeable to their custom, condoled with them, & wiped away the tears from their eyes.

being informed that Sagethradde Chief Sachem of the Senecas had died lately, he with a belt condoled his death, and covered his grave, so as to remove from their sight, whatever might countenance their grief. ^{gave three strings} Gave a black, & white belt

This ceremony having been performed by Little Abraham, a sachem of

of the Mohocks - Sir William then told them they might proceed to the business on which they had been dispatched, whereupon Anarongo Speaker of Onondaga addressed him as follows

Brother Gorahkarraghigayey

We return you many thanks for your condolance, on account of our losses, which are really very great, and as yours (especially at this time) must have been very considerable, we likewise condole with you in return

Then returned Sir William, and the Mohocks thanks for covering the graves of the deceased Seneca in manner before mentioned, and afterwards proceeded

Brother

We are desired by Teyoguéando, Chief warrior of the Onondagas, and your great friend, to acquaint you, that since his return from Canada, death has deprived him of all his Family and party, (except an old woman) which losses have so dispirited, and cast him down that he is determined to lay aside all business. wherefore he has directed us to deliver you this Medal, & Colours which you gave him when you raised him to be one of our Sachems, at the same time he desired us to assure you that he would ever remain a true friend to the English, and that nothing should ever turn his head, or heart from them.

Have three strings of wampum, and laid down Teyoguéando's Medal, and flag.

Brother

I beg your attention to what I am going to say, as I likewise do yours, Brethren of the Mohocks who are the head of our Confederacy. I am charged by the Council who lately sat at Onondaga to remind you, Brother Warraghigayey of the many fair promises made to us since the commencement of the present war, by all the Generals who have been here, as well as by yourself. First, that we should have a plentiful trade, carried on for our advantage, as soon as the French were subdued, or the war was ended. Secondly, that the

Covenant

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Covenant Chain of friendship should ever be kept bright, and strong, and the communication free, and open between us. —
 thirdly, that we should not want for the necessaries of life if we joyned his Majesties arms, which we have done more, or less every campaign; yet, we are sorry today these promises are not fulfilled; nay, we are now by the dearth of goods sold to us in our country, and at the different posts, obliged to pay such exorbitant prices, that our hunting is not sufficient to purchase us as much cloathing as is necessary to cover us, & our families, indeed, our hunting is not so great as usual — (altho there is more game) through the want of ammunition which we can by no means procure. So you therefore, Brother we apply, as the person appointed by the King to the direction of us, and hope you will take our wants into consideration and let us have some ammunition that we may be enabled to hunt for the support of our families, otherwise, we must suffer greatly, and away with the war had never began, neither can the trade with your people, without such assistance, be as considerable as heretofore. —
 Gave abelt

Sir William then returned them the Medals, and Flag, desiring they would give them back to Seyagando, and tell him, it was his desire that he should wear the same, & continue to act as he had hitherto done so long as he lived. That his loosing so many of his people was the will of God, for which he should not be dejected, nor neglect the affairs of his Nation,

Then laid down the Flag, & Medals, & spoke to them as follows

Brethren of the six Nations,

As all my ^{promises &} proceedings with you are recorded, you need not to have reminded me of them since I can be no stranger thereto —

I heartily wish you had all followed my advice, and manifested more zeal for his Majesties Interest than you have done, which had you done, you might then with more propriety have taken
 Notice

Notice of our not entirely fulfilling our promises, but the records are full of your promises, which were never performed, and will remain as an everlasting evidence against you.

After the great expence which the Government was at last year in cloathing, arming, and supplying you, and your families with provisions, you basely abandoned his Majesties forces, immediately after the reduction of Isle Royale, which could not fail to exasperate the General against you, and occasion his entertaining a very bad opinion of you; however, by a letter which I received from him a few days ago, he declares he is willing to forget all, provided your future conduct be such as becometh brethren and friends, and he is now about establishing an open and fair trade to be carried on by his Majesties subjects, with all friendly Indians, which trade, will I dare assure you be settled on such a proper footing as will convince them that his Majesty has the welfare of all Indians at heart who shall merit, and desire his protection. When that plan for trade is once regulated (which I believe will be in the ensuing summer) you may then have good or reasonable and the more so whenever the war is entirely ended.

The scarcity of gunpowder of which you complain is owing to two reasons, first, your deserting the General as I have already mentioned, & secondly that our traders are discouraged from bringing any powder amongst you, from the prejudice which you entertained allways that French powder was better than English, on which account they never imported any for trade, but probably when they find a demand for it, they will bring that article amongst you as well as other things; In the meantime I shall so far consider your wants as to supply you with a little to hunt with, & support your families. Gave a belt in Lodge.

Brethren

As you have been unjustly charging us with breach of

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Of promises; I must now tell you that you have broken your word with me, in not delivering up all the prisoners in your custody who have been taken during the war, notwithstanding I have with several belts of wampum now in your custody, requested you would immediately deliver all such prisoners up, which you frequently promised to do, but have not yet complied with my demand. our (former) enemy Indians have delivered up all our people who were amongst them, and how you (who now talk of renewing the covenant chain as brethren) can presume to detain any I cannot account for, unless you suppose us to be a very foolish, easy people, or that we have no regard for our flesh, and blood, neither of which is the case. I therefore once more desire you will deliver up to me ^{the Government they belong to} all his Majesty's subjects, as also all the houses, and cattle which your young people for sometime past stole, and picked up from the distressed inhabitants of the several provinces. when these demands are complied with, you may with more propriety talk of renewing the Covenant Chain, and you may then find us ready and willing to have it renewed and strengthened.

Libelt

Brethren

You likewise find fault with my not sending oftener to your Nations with news. Your bad behaviour last campaign, and lately to some of his Majesty's troops under the command of Major Rogers is a sufficient reason for my not chusing to send any of my people amongst you. and as to indulgences which you have formerly met with, they are not at all applicable to the present times, as in them days the behaviour of the C. Nats was much better than at present, tho' they then never received one fourth part of the presents &c. which you have received from his Majesty since my appointment to the Management of Ind. Affairs.

Ordered a sack of 50. weight to each Nation presents with lead in proportion, also pipes, Tobacco, Rum, & some Money for their journey, after which they parted —

Friday ⁱⁿ March 13th Aaron, Zacharias, and Lawrence, three Mohocks, waited on Sir William at his seat at Castle Cumberland with a Message from the Chief of that Castle, desiring to have a meeting at Fort Johnson as soon as 'twas convenient, they having something of moment to communicate. Sir William informed them that he would be at home on Sunday the 15th in order to hear what they had to say. He returned 3 strings

Sunday
15th

A Meeting held at Fort Johnson with all the Chief and Warriors, together with the Women of the Mohocks.

Abraham their Chief, and Speaker addressed Sir Will^m as follows
Brother Jonah Warraghijagay

We are assembled at present to disclose our minds to you and let you know our unhappy situation.

Sometimes before the last war, the King was so good as to allow us a Minister for our instruction in Religion, at which we greatly rejoiced, and in order to make his Mission the more agreeable, we, in a meeting of our Chief Sachems concluded it would be necessary to give him a piece of Land for a house, garden, and Pasture &c. which we accordingly did, and thereupon he assured he would continue to reside thereon and preach to us, so long as he lived. but to our great concern he soon left us tho we could never learn the cause except that we heard it was for a better living which we think strange in a Minister. Long after this, Mr

Ogilvie came amongst us, and told us much to the same purposes, but he has also left us, and we are now like a lost people, having no person to instruct either us or our Children, who are like the wild creatures in the woods, having

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Having no knowledge of the great spirit above, nor even regard for their parents, besides, we are now all left at liberty to act as we are inclined, and our grown people have become so addicted to liquor that unless some stop be put thereto, we shall soon be ruined people; and as the only method of reclaiming them must be by the help of a Minister, we most earnestly request that his present Majesty will be so indulgent as to allow us a Minister to remain constantly amongst us, and not to act as the former, which was as soon as they had acquired a little of our language to abandon us. We also beg that the land which we intended as a gift may be given up by M. Barclay for that purpose, as we should soon be without a foot of land for our own use, were we to give every Minister as much. We have formerly sent several belts of wampum to the great King to enforce our suit but have been so unlucky as neither to see our belts returned nor our request granted, wherefore we entreat your Brother to take our case in hand, and try what you can do there in, as we imagine from what you have often told us that the great King will not deny this, our humble request, since it is the only means we have left to render us happy in this, and the next world. We have observed last campaign in Canada, that the French have really a great regard for the happiness of their Indians, allowing every Village a Minister, or two according to their largeness, and we flatter ourselves, we have been as hearty in the great King George's interest, as ever they were, in that of the French, which induces us to hope we will not be refused so reasonable a demand.

Gave a belt

1 Sir,

Bacon

Sir William answered them that he would transmit their requests home, and made no doubt it would be complied with; adding that he was very glad to find them so well disposed towards instructions, and observed, that their former petitions on that head, must have miscarried, or else not been sent, otherwise his Majesty would have granted them — and as he knew somewhat concerning the land formerly given to Mr Barclay he promised to write to the Governor of the Province concerning it. Adding that Mr Barclay had offered some years ago, to give up his title to the land provided he was reimbursed his expences for building an house thereon, this proposal the Governor might lay before the House of Assembly, in whose power it was to pay Mr Barclay his demands, after which the affair would be settled to their satisfaction. gave a belt

Proceedings at a Meeting held at Albany
 June 28th 1761. By George Croghan Esq. Dep^y Agent for Indian Affairs with the Deputies of the Caghawagas, Kanaspadagas, & other Nations of Indians, by order of Sir William Johnson Bart.

Mr Croghan first welcomed them with the usual ceremonies; then condoling with them for the loss of the Sachem, who died the last spring at Kanaspadaga. When the Indians after going through the same ceremony, spoke as follows.

Brother Warraghigagey

When you spoke to our Nations in Canada, you cleared the road between you & us, & buried every thing that was evil, & desired us to forget what was past this war. We now assure you Brother that we have acted as you desired us, we assure you of our sincerity, & hope you will always direct us, how to promote the friendship subsisting between us. Abelt Kous

Brother since the beginning of the present war, great Numbers of our People and Friends have by the instigation of the evil spirit, with this belt wither ^{been} ~~been~~ gathered up the bones on both sides, & bury them, that what has happened may be forgotten. Abelt Kous

1765 Brother

By this belt we desire in behalf of all the Nations that you will assist in strengthening the peace, so happily settled between us by your last fall. it is in your power to make it a lasting one —

Abelt 11 Rows

Brother This belt is in behalf of our warriors who have agreed with us to assist in strengthening the peace & friendship, We hope if warriors will do the same —

Abelt, D. R.

Brother By this belt I assure you that our warriors have taken the strongest resolutions to behave in such a manner, as will be agreeable to our brethren, & make this a lasting peace. Abelt 9.

Brother You are sensible that 'tis our people's misfortune to love spirituous liquor; but if any of them sh^d behave ill in their liquor, we desire you may not abuse them, but on applying to us you shall have such satisfaction, as this crime may deserve —

Abelt 6.

Brother I have told you the resolutions of our warriors to strengthen the peace. And in case any thing that is evil, should remain in the hearts of any of them; we shall give them a Dove, which shall oblige them to Vold Up their evil thoughts & cleanse their hearts —

Abelt 5 Rows

Brother, For sometime past, there hath been darkness all over this land, we know as now disperse all the dark clouds, that hath hung over our heads; that we & our children unborn, may see the Sun clear as soon as they come into the world. Abelt 9 Rows

Brother You told us the road was good; but we have found a great many stumps in the way. Now Brother we will assist you, & pull up all the stumps that is in way, & make the road smooth & pleasant from Albany to our castle at Caghawaga, for you & us to travel —

Abelt 10 Rows

Brother Last fall you sent us a message desiring we might speak to the Delawares that live near us, as they were a foolish people, & did not behave well; & promised that you w^d speak to those that live near you. We have spoken to those you desired us, and you may depend on their good behaviour for the future —

Abelt 9 Rows

Brother We have delivered you all your flash blood, and to those Ind^s who have been with you during the war. We desire by this belt, that you will speak to the Michichanders Ind^s, that we may see our flesh, and blood, that they have —

Abelt 10 Rows

Brother, We are sorry at this time to have occasion to make complaint, but we can't help it, had received very ill usage from your people this winter at the Cedars on our hunt road, who fired sev^l times at our Canoes passing down, & when we came on shore, have taken our meat & what they fancied from us, with tray & beat any of our people severely who grumbled; which as 'tis treatm^t we have not been used to. We hope Brother that you will give orders, that we may not be used so again. —

Abelt 6 Rows

Brother. One of our principal men being dead, it is our custom to have one wear up in his room, to assist in peace, we therefore apply to you to wear up one in his stead as is customary —

Abelt 6 Rows

Brother We have now done the business we came on, in behalf of the sev^l Nat^s in our Country, accord^g to our custom we can't help letting you know that we are in want of every necessary of life, & therefore order us a few Guns, Powder & Lead, & Fittles & Coats, to enable us to hunt for our provisions going home —

A String

Brother, On all occasions when we formerly visited our fathers the French, they listened to our requests & always paid our necessities; we hope Brother you'll do the same, as we are a poor people & can't well subsist without your assistance —

Abelt

Copy of Sir William Johnson's Letter to his Excellency General Amherst
Dated, Fort Johnson March 18th 1761.

Sir

I am honoured with yours of the 22^d ult^o which enclosed a warrant for 4000^l ster in order to discharge the several demands now upon me, I am glad to find the list of goods proper for the Indian trade, and the intelligence I sent your Excellency were agreeable, as nothing will give me more pleasure than having it in my power at any time to render you what little service I can — the reason of my mentioning the necessity (I thought there was) of having a law passed for keeping Indian traders within due bounds (which I know is not otherwise easily done) was owing to an opinion I entertained of Lord Loudoun's not having done any thing in the affair and I still believe it will be found so, however, the Officers commanding the several forts and posts, where trade is, or may be carried on, by your instructions, should and will doubtless endeavour to see a fair trade carried on, which above all things, will make the Indians think well of us, and contribute to continue them our friends.

My proposing to your Excellency the propriety of the Commanding Officers at the posts where trade is carried on having it in their power to give (on proper occasions) a little ammunition &c. was not a scheme of my own, nor a new thing, it is what has been done by us, and the French, (who certainly were not strangers to their own interests) for good policy. Should we unexpectedly, or unhappily be obliged to give up the Country of Canada (which God forbid) we will find it for the interests of Britain, if I be not very much mistaken in the knowledge I flatter myself I have of Indians) to shew them now a little generosity and friendship, and that it is their interest to keep well with us. It is true the benefit of a free, extensive, and well regulated trade will be one of the most effectual measures to convince them of that, but until such a trade is established, they, in the intermediate time without some

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some little assistance of the kind I mentioned to your Excellency from us, must feel a sensible difference in the change of friends, or Neighbours.

I hope, Sir, that you should not imagine from what I proposed concerning a little provision to be allowed Indians, that I meant it should be given profusely, no, really I only intended a small matter should be delivered to such distant Indians as may come to trade, or trade with us for the few days they stay, and on their journey homeward, which the Traders have not in their power to do, nor as yet have they had any powder to sell the Indians for to hunt with, so that if they have not it from us (until the traders can supply them) they must be without any. This is the true state of the case and hope your Excellency will consider it.

I have sent for Mr. Croghan (and Montour to come this way, and desired the former to post such of his Apistants as he may want, in the best manner he can, leaving them instructions & directions to keep up a constant correspondence with each other, and write me duly how affairs go on in their several quarters by which means I shall be able to learn the disposition of the several nations, and manage the whole, on one settled plan; when Mr. Croghan arrives, I will examine, and settle his acts altho' they have always (until now) been adjusted and paid by the Officer commanding the western Army.

Your Excellency is pleased to observe that Mr. Croghan has been very countifful; I cannot answer to it otherwise than he writes me that what he gave to the Indians was chiefly by order of Major Rogers, and in his, and Capt. Campbells presence—when I see his accounts shall be better able to judge; in the mean time I must beg leave to observe, as Mr. Croghan with his Indians were a safe guard to Major Rogers in an Ind. Country where

Where our troops were liable to be insulted, that his giving them presents was I believe very necessary; for my own part, I acknowledge I have given a great deal of money, goods, &c. to purchase the interest and good behaviour of different Nations of Indians, both this, and last War, and that by the advice and directions of my superiors, who at the time, judged it money well laid out. Indeed, the situation of Affairs then, and now is very different, yet I think it my indispensable duty as his Majesty's Agent of Indian affairs, to give it your Excellency as my opinion, that acting yet awhile with too much parsimony towards the Indians, and keeping a very strict hand over them, will not tend so much to the good of his Majesty's Indian interest as a little generosity and moderation, all Indians looking upon us now with jealous eyes. These are my sentiments which I give your Excellency, and hope you will take them as meant.

Lieut. Claus acts I think in his situation as frugal and well as any man that could be chosen for that service. he has not as yet drawn on me for much, and from what I have wrote him in consequence of your Letter, I dare say the expence of managing the Indians of all that Country (tho' numerous) will not cost the Crown as much as four Families of them cost the ^{King's} ~~French~~ ^{Government} formerly; whether that frugality will be for our interest (should affairs take a turn) — I much doubt. I should be glad to know, as he would also, whether he is not to have the same allowance as my other Deputy, and whether he is to be continued there any time.

I can give your Excellency no other tokens of Hope the Germans, than that he is the man whom I thought to head Quarters at Oswego, & told you that he had been a prisoner long at La Galette, and offered his service to go with your Excellency knowing the situation of the Islands &c. you then desired him to go to my camp, and me to order him provisions with my people, which I did, & he accompanied us all the campaign, and returned with me — he made a kind of a Draught of La Galette, the Islands, & its environs at Oswego, & shewed it to you. I send you a Certificate which a Mohock Indian who was to Detroit one few weeks last year brought me, and begged I would send it you, in hopes of getting then his money.

I have the honour to be &c

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AprilCopy of General Amherst's Letter, Dated New York 1st April.

Dear Sir

I send you by Capt. Munro 1012 Silver Medals for that Number of Indians, who were under your command on our arrival at Montreal, each medal has a name inscribed on it, taken exactly from the list, which you gave me in Canada, according to the enclosed Copy.

The names of the Algonquian Indians were left blank but, I imagine, it will not be difficult to find a person to add the names to them, which I must beg the favour of you, to have inscribed on the Medals, and that you will please to deliver the whole, as a mark of the King's approbation, of their faithful services, which they are to wear as a proof of his Majesties satisfaction, of their zeal and bravery, and that they may be distinguished by this token, whenever they shall come to any of the Posts or Posts, from those unworthy Indians, who so shamefully abandoned the Army after we left Cowego.

Amongst these Medals, there is one for Silver heels, who is at present at Carolina, and I don't know, but there may be more Indians there who are included in the list.

I enclose one of these Medals in gold, which I beg your acceptance of, and that you will permit me to say no one has so good a right to it as yourself, for I am convinced, those Indians who did accompany the Army, were induced to it from the proper care and good conduct you shewed towards them.

I am with great Regard, Sir

Copy of General Amherst's Letter, dated Albany 30th May

Sir

It is but since my arrival here, that I had the pleasure of receiving your Letter of the 21st of March, which I suppose has followed

followed me from New York to this place.

The wise measures you have taken for getting the best intelligence of the different Indian Nations; I think cannot fail of success.

I have sent to Lake Erie to prepare and build two armed vessels, for exploring the upper Lakes, and to see the situation of the ports, and the state of the country near the Lakes.

I am hopeful that time will permit me to take a tour that way; and I shall desire the favour of your company, that every thing in regard to the Indians, may be put upon the best footing; and I shall try to convince them by all means that are in my power, that they are, and must be more happy under the protection of the King, than when the French were masters of the country.

I am much obliged to you for your opinion which you have given me of the state of Indian affairs: you are the best judge of what will best conduce to secure them in our friendship; and I shall always be glad to have your sentiments thereon.

I think Lieut. Blau should have the same allowance as your other Deputies; from your recommendation of him, I am convinced he is the proper person for the care of the Indians in Canada; and it is for the good of his Majesty's service that he should continue there.

I remember perfectly well, what you mentioned of, that the Germans I shall order Col^d. Williamson to deliver you three hundred weight of powder, on your sending for it; If I knew, who to deliver it to here, for you, it should be immediately done.

The time I shall take the tour on the Lakes, will depend on my being able to finish the business I have here, of which I shall give you notice; and if you think of any thing that is necessary to be done, or taken, for the Indians, in the upper countries, I should be glad you would inform me thereof.

Capt. D'Arcy will deliver you this.

I am, with great truth, and regard,

Yours

1761
May

Copy of Lieut Governor Hamilton's Letter to Sir William Johnson
Dated, Philadelphia May 12th 1761

Sir

I am to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 1st of March, in answer to mine relating to the settlements of the Connecticut people in this province; and to return you my hearty thanks for your kind promise of communicating to me, any thing that should occur to you, which it may be necessary for us to know.

With regard to Seedyuncung's complaints against the proprietors about Lands, you may please to be assured, I have not the least desire to interfere in it, nor have ever used any means to divert them from appointing a time and place for the hearing of it, agreeable to his Majesty's orders. — on the contrary whenever you shall please to give me notice that those preliminaries are agreed on, I shall readily appoint commissioners to attend and explain to you the justice of the proprietors conduct in that respect, being perfectly satisfied with his Majesty's wisdom in having referred the matter to be heard by you.

Upon perusing your letter of the same date to Mr. Peters, I was concerned to find that you had been informed, that the Six Nations Indians had received three belts of invitations to Philadelphia since the winter. — I hope upon enquiry you will find this intelligence not to have been well founded; since, with regard to myself, I do very sincerely assure you, I have never since my arrival sent the least message or belt of invitation to those people for any purpose whatsoever, nor have I the least expectation of a visit either of friendship or business from them.

If any other persons of the Province have presumed to send messages to them, it is quite unknown to me; and I should be glad to be made acquainted with their names that they may be dealt with according to their deserts.

I am sorry to acquaint you that the Connecticut settlement

on

On Delaware still goes on; and that another is intended to be made at Wyoming, the very place appointed by the six Nations for the residence of the Delawares and other tribes who were obliged to remove from the inward parts of the Province on account of the great increase of our People which spoilt their hunting, and that the Indians living there are so much alarmed at this proceeding, that Teedyuscung and six or seven others came lately down to acquaint me, that several had already deserted their habitations, and that he himself should soon be obliged to go to the westward, unless a stop could be put to the Connecticut people coming thither.

I have been, and still am, so much afraid that this manner of proceeding will occasion a fresh rupture with the Indians, that I have wrote to General Amherst upon it, and prayed his interposition; in addition to which I now also beg the favour of yours in such manner as you shall judge most proper; and unless by these means a stop can be put to the enterprise, I despair of its being done at all.

I must also beg the favour, that you will acquaint me whether the six Nations are apprised of these proceedings, and what their opinion is respecting them? since nothing is more certain than that the Lands do yet belong to those Nations; having never that I have heard of, been fairly and openly purchased from them. — nor can the people of any other Province have a right to purchase Lands in the very center of Pennsylvania, all such purchases being declared null and void by an ancient and standing Law of this Government.

Nothing but my concern for preserving the peace so happily established between his Majesty's subjects and our Indian allies after the late terrible scenes of murder & desolation; & the dangerous light in which this wanton and unjust proceeding of the Connecticut men appears to me, could have induced me to trespass so much upon your time on which acct. I hope you will not only excuse it, but believe me to be, with the greatest respect, Sir &c